



I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

On November 13, 2001

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Debra Ann DeBello  
Debra Ann DeBello

Attorney Docket No.: 19941A-000300US  
Client Ref. No.: WA-0436 USPTO

RECEIVED  
JAN 15 2002  
TECHNICAL  
EXAMINER 1600/2900

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

NOBORU YAMASHITA, *et al.*

Application No.: 09/582,404

Filed: June 23, 2000

For: SUSTAINED-RELEASE  
PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITION

Examiner: Pryor, A.

Art Unit: 1616

RESPONSE

#4998  
1-18-02

RECEIVED  
JAN 11 2002  
TC 1700

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 13, 2001, please consider the following remarks.

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in this application. The claims as pending are reproduced in the Appendix for the Examiner's convenience. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.